THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Thursday, 2nd August 1955.

The House met in the Assembly Chamber, Government Estate, Mount Road, at eleven of the clock, Mr. Speaker (THE HON. SRI J. SIVASHANMUGAM PILLAI) in the Chair.

I.—EXPRESSION OF SORROW AT THE DEATH OF (1) SRI V. RANGASWAMY NAIDU AND (2) SRI GADDE RANGIAH NAIDU.

MR. SPEAKER :—" It is my painful duty to inform the House of the death on 1st June 1955 of Sri V. Rangaswami Naidu, who represented the Salem-*cum*-Coimbatore-*cum*-Nilgiris Local Authorities Constituency in the Madras Legislative Council and also of the death which occurred on 16th June 1955 of Sri Gadda Rangiah Naidu, who was a Member of the Legislative Assembly, during 1937–39. By way of expressing our sorrow and showing our respect for the departed souls, I request the Members to stand in their places in silence for two minutes."

(All the hon. Members stood in silence in their places for two minutes.)

II.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Ban on staging the drama " Valmiki Ramayana ".

* 1839 *Q.*—SRI P. RANGASWAMI REDDIAR : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Police prevented Messrs. M. R. Radha and party from staging the drama 'Valmiki Ramayana' on 28th August 1954, at Wall-Tax Theatre, Madras;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that the script of the said drama was submitted to the Police authorities, sufficiently early, on 4th August 1954;

(*c*) the special reasons, if any, for issuing and serving the prohibitory order in the last moment;

(*d*) whether the Government scrutinized the script and found any objectionable matter therein;

(*e*) if so, when it was found out;

(*f*) whether any complaint was orally made to the Hon. the Chief Minister, by Mr. M. R. Radha, immediately afterwards; and

(*g*) if so, with what result?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" (*a*) A prohibitory order of Government was served on the parties on 28th August 1954; but the actual drama staged that night at the Wall-Tax Theatre, Madras, was entitled 'Ratha Kannir'.